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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,732

Applicant(s)

MOHAMMED ET AL.

Examiner

ALVIN H. TAN

Art Unit

2173

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 7-9, 11-15, 17, 19, 20, 23-26, 29-38, 40 and 41 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 7-9, 11-15, 17, 19, 20, 23-26, 29-38, 40 and 41 is/are rejected.

- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-940)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/9/09, 8/14/09, 10/19/09
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11-15, 17, 19, 20, 23-26, 29-38, 40, and 41 have been examined and rejected. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 8/14/09, which has been entered in the above identified application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 12-15, 17, 19, 20, 23-26, 29-38, 40, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sheasby et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,163 B1).

Claims 12-15, 17, 19 (Method)

- 3-1. Regarding claim 12, Sheasby teaches a method comprising receiving a call from an application over an API for rendering a media timeline wherein the media timeline includes a plurality of nodes, by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects

representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created *[column 1, lines 14-20]*. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media *[column 1, lines 20-23]*.

Sheasby teaches the media timeline includes a plurality of nodes, wherein the plurality of nodes comprises at least a parent node and a child node and two or more nodes reference respective media, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline *[figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25]* using parent and child sequences *[column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34]*.

Sheasby teaches the media timeline defines one or more presentations including media and rendering the media timeline to output each presentation to an output device, by disclosing that sequences are played back on output devices *[column 9, lines 41-47]*.

Sheasby teaches dividing the media timeline into one or more presentations, such that each presentation describes a collection of software components utilized to render media for the particular interval of time, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips *[column 3, lines 10-20]* as well as various effects applied to the clips *[column 3, lines 20-25]*.

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components include a transform, by disclosing various effects applied to the clips *[column 3, lines 20-25]*. Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components comprise at least one of a timeline source configured to support a dynamic change to the media timeline, a

media source, a media session, a media engine, a source resolver, and a media sink, by disclosing parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches configuring at least one node for communication of events to another node such that a change may be made to the media timeline while the media timeline is rendered by performing at least one of changing to a property of the at least one node, adding one or more additional nodes as a child to the at least one node, removing one or more nodes that are children of the at least one node, adding an effect to the at least one node, and removing an effect from the at least one node, by disclosing that the parent/child sequences allow modification of a child sequence to be automatically used by the parent sequence without requiring a separate modification [column 6, lines 13-20].

Sheasby teaches loading each software component described by a first collection, executing each software component described by the first collection, and loading each software component described by a second collection, by disclosing that reference clips are loaded and played back [column 6, lines 53-63].

3-2. Regarding claim 13, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 12, wherein the rendering further comprises examining the media timeline, by disclosing playing the presentation based on the timeline [column 6, lines 53-59].

3-3. Regarding claim 14, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 12, wherein each collection does not change for the particular interval of time described by

a respective presentation, by disclosing providing version control, access control, and security systems [column 6, lines 21-30].

3-4. Regarding claim 15, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 12, wherein each presentation describes a respective partial topology of software components and the respective partial topology is for resolving into a full topology that references each software component utilized to render a respective presentation, by disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

3-5. Regarding claim 17, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 12, wherein at least one node is configured to reference an effect to be applied to an output of the media referenced by the node, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips [column 3, lines 10-20] as well as various effects applied to the clips [column 3, lines 20-25].

3-6. Regarding claim 19, Sheasby teaches one or more computer readable storage media comprising computer executable instruction that, when executed on a computer, direct the computer to perform the method of claim 12, by disclosing [figure 7; column 9, lines 30-40].

Claims 20, 23-25 (Computer Readable Media)

3-7. Regarding claim 20, Sheasby teaches the claim wherein a media timeline is for exposure via an API to one or more applications, by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created [column 1, lines 14-20]. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media [column 1, lines 20-23].

Sheasby teaches the media timeline includes a plurality of nodes, wherein the plurality of nodes comprises at least a parent node and a child node and at least two nodes reference respective media, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline [figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25] using parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches each presentation describes rendering of respective media to an output device for a particular interval of time, by disclosing that sequences are played back on output devices [column 9, lines 41-47].

Sheasby teaches wherein each presentation describes a collection of software components that, when executed, provides the described rendering of media for the particular interval of time, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips [column 3, lines 10-20] as well as various effects applied to the clips [column 3, lines 20-25].

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components include a transform, by disclosing various effects applied to the clips [column 3, lines 20-25].

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components comprise at least one of a timeline source configured to support a dynamic change to the media timeline, a media source, a media session, a media engine, a source resolver, and a media sink, by disclosing parent and child sequences *[column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34]*.

Sheasby teaches computer executable instructions that, when executed on the computer, direct the computer to load each software component described by a first collection, execute each software component described by the first collection, and load each software component described by a second collection, by disclosing that reference clips are loaded and played back *[column 6, lines 53-63]*.

3-8. Regarding claim 23, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 20, wherein each presentation describes a respective partial topology of software components and the respective partial topology is for resolving into a full topology that references each software component utilized to render a respective said presentation, by disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences *[column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34]*.

3-9. Regarding claim 24, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 20, wherein at least one node is configured to reference an effect to be applied to an output of said media referenced by the node, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips *[Sheasby, column 3, lines 10-20]* as well as various effects applied to the clips *[Sheasby, column 3, lines 20-25]*.

3-10. Regarding claim 25, Sheasby teaches the method as described in claim 20, wherein at least one node is configured for communication of events to another node such that a change may be made to the media timeline while the media timeline is rendered, by disclosing that the parent/child sequences allow modification of a child sequence to be automatically used by the parent sequence without requiring a separate modification [*column 6, lines 13-20*].

Claims 26, 29-32 (System)

3-11. Regarding claim 26, Sheasby teaches a system comprising a memory, a processor coupled to the memory, a plurality of media, and plurality of applications, by disclosing a non-linear editing system [*figure 7; column 9, lines 16-47*] that references clips [*column 4, lines 20-34*].

Sheasby teaches an infrastructure layer that provides an API for the plurality of applications which exposes a media timeline that describes one or more presentations of the plurality of media, by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created [*column 1, lines 14-20*]. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media [*column 1, lines 20-23*].

Sheasby teaches managing rendering of the one or more presentations, wherein each presentation describes rendering of media to an output device for a particular interval of time, by disclosing that sequences are played back on output devices [column 9, lines 41-47].

Sheasby teaches wherein each presentation describes a collection of software components configured for dynamic loading such that the collection of software components provide the described rendering of the media for the particular interval of time, by disclosing producing playback of the reference clips [column 6, line 53 to column 7, line 18].

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components include a transform by disclosing various effects applied to the clips [column 3, lines 20-25]. Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components comprise at least one of a timeline source configured to support a dynamic change to the media timeline, a media source, a media session, a media engine, a source resolver, and a media sink, by disclosing parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components are loaded only when needed, by disclosing efficiently loading data only when needed [column 4, lines 4-19].

3-12. Regarding claim 29, Sheasby teaches the system as described in claim 26, wherein the collection does not change for the particular interval of time described, by

disclosing providing version control, access control, and security systems [column 6, lines 21-30].

3-13. Regarding claim 30, Sheasby teaches the system as described in claim 26, wherein each presentation describes a respective partial topology of software components and the respective partial topology is for resolving into a full topology that references each software component utilized to render a respective presentation, by disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

3-14. Regarding claim 31, Sheasby teaches the system as described in claim 26, wherein the media timeline includes a plurality of nodes and at least two nodes reference respective media, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline [figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25] using parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches at least one said node is configured to reference an effect to be applied to an output of media referenced by the node, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips [column 3, lines 10-20] as well as various effects applied to the clips [column 3, lines 20-25].

3-15. Regarding claim 32, Sheasby teaches the system as described in claim 26, wherein the media timeline includes a plurality of nodes and at least two nodes

reference respective media, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline [figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25] using parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches wherein at least one node is configured for communication of events to another node such that a change may be made to the media timeline while the media timeline is rendered, by disclosing that the parent/child sequences allow modification of a child sequence to be automatically used by the parent sequence without requiring a separate modification [column 6, lines 13-20].

Claims 33-38, 40, 41 (Timeline Source)

3-16. Regarding claim 33, Sheasby teaches means for dividing a media timeline into one or more presentations each describing a rendering of one or more media during a particular interval of time, by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created [column 1, lines 14-20]. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media [column 1, lines 20-23].

Sheasby teaches wherein the media timeline exposes a plurality of nodes to a plurality of applications, wherein one or more nodes reference respective said media, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline [figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25] using parent and child sequences [column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34].

Sheasby teaches wherein the media timeline is configured for dynamic loading such that metadata included in at least one node specifies a collection of nodes to be loaded when the media timeline is rendered, wherein the rendered media timeline is presented on an output device, by disclosing producing playback of the reference clips *[column 6, line 53 to column 7, line 18]* on output devices *[column 9, lines 41-47]*.

Sheasby teaches means for determining a topology for each presentation, wherein the topology references a collection of software components that, when executed, provides the rendering, by disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences *[column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34]*.

Sheasby teaches media processor means for executing the topology for each presentation that is described by the timeline, by disclosing a processor system *[column 9, lines 16-40; figure 7]* for producing playback of the reference clips *[column 6, line 53 to column 7, line 18]*.

3-17. Regarding claim 34, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, wherein each collection does not change for the particular interval of time described by a respective presentation, by disclosing providing version control, access control, and security systems *[column 6, lines 21-30]*.

3-18. Regarding claim 35, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, wherein the topology is a partial topology for resolving into a full topology that references each software component utilized to provide a respective presentation, by

disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences *[column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34]*.

3-19. Regarding claim 36, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, wherein at least one node is configured to reference an effect to be applied to an output of media referenced by the node, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips *[column 3, lines 10-20]* as well as various effects applied to the clips *[column 3, lines 20-25]*.

3-20. Regarding claim 37, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claims 33, wherein at least one node is configured for communication of events to another node such that a change may be made to a property of the at least one node while the media timeline is rendered, by disclosing that the parent/child sequences allow modification of a child sequence to be automatically used by the parent sequence without requiring a separate modification *[column 6, lines 13-20]*.

3-21. Regarding claim 38, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, wherein the media timeline is configured for dynamic creation such that at least one node is created while the media timeline is rendered, by disclosing efficiently loading data within a sequence *[column 4, lines 9-19]* and producing playback of the reference clips *[column 6, line 53 to column 7, line 18]*.

3-22. Regarding claim 40, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, wherein at least one node is specified as read-only, by disclosing that the user can define users' rights to a child sequence to be read-only [column 6, lines 21-30].

3-23. Regarding claim 41, Sheasby teaches the timeline source as described in claim 33, further comprising means for translating a time specified by one node for rendering the one node with respect to a time specified by another node, by disclosing a parent/child hierarchical arrangement of sequences [column 8, lines 20-29].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 1, 4, 7-9, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheasby et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,163 B1), in view of Day et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,996,015).

Claims 1, 4, 7-9, 11 (Method)

5-1. Regarding claim 1, Sheasby teaches a method comprising examining a plurality of nodes within a media timeline, by disclosing a non-linear editing system sequence having clips within a timeline as shown in *[figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25]*.

Sheasby teaches wherein the media timeline is for exposure over an application programming interface (API), by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created *[column 1, lines 14-20]*. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media *[column 1, lines 20-23]*.

Sheasby teaches one or more nodes reference respective media and dividing the media timeline into one or more presentations, wherein each presentation describes a rendering of the media for a particular interval of time, by disclosing that a timeline sequence may include multiple tracks, each containing multiple clips as shown in *[figure 1; column 3, lines 10-25]*.

Sheasby teaches wherein each presentation describes a collection of software components that, when executed, provides the described rendering of the media for the particular interval of time, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips *[column 3, lines 10-20]* as well as various effects applied to the clips *[column 3, lines 20-25]*.

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components include a transform, by disclosing various effects applied to the clips [*column 3, lines 20-25*].

Sheasby teaches wherein the collection of software components comprise at least one of a timeline source configured to support a dynamic change to the media timeline, a first media source, a media session, a media engine, a source resolver, or a media sink, by disclosing parent and child sequences [*column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34*].

Sheasby teaches configuring at least one node for communication of events to another node such that a change may be made to the media timeline while the media timeline is rendered, wherein the rendered media timeline is presented on an output device, by disclosing that the parent/child sequences allow modification of a child sequence to be automatically used by the parent sequence without requiring a separate modification [*column 6, lines 13-20*]. Sequences are played back on output devices [*column 9, lines 41-47*].

Sheasby teaches loading each software component described by a first collection and executing each software component described by the first collection, by disclosing that reference clips are loaded and played back [*column 6, lines 53-63*].

Sheasby does not expressly teach loading each software component described by a second collection, wherein each software component that is described by the second collection is loaded during the executing of the first collection, such that the first collection is available to be rendered on the output device while a second media source is loaded. Day discloses a method for displaying a plurality of video segment files in a continuous seamless presentation [*column 1, lines 26-29*]. While a video segment is

playing, a determination is made as to whether there are more segments to be presented and if so, an initialization process is begun, at a predetermined point prior to the end of the data stream for the first video segment, for the second selected video segment in order to prepare the second selected video segment to be seamlessly concatenated to the end of the first selected video segment [*column 6, lines 26-51*]. This provides a seamless and continuous flow of data from the server to the client without interruption at a transition point between the first selection and the second selection in the real-time transfer of the selected video files [*column 6, lines 51-64*]. Since Sheasby discloses referencing multiple video clips [*Sheasby, column 8, lines 20-29*] and playback of those video clips [*Sheasby, column 6, lines 53-59*], it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to load a subsequent video clip at a predetermined point prior to the end of the current video clip, as taught by Day. This would provide a seamless and continuous flow of data from the server to the client without interruption at a transition point between the first selection and the second selection in the real-time transfer of the selected video files.

5-2. Regarding claim 4, Sheasby and Day teach the method as described in claim 1, wherein each presentation describes a respective partial topology of software components and the respective partial topology is for resolving into a full topology that references each software component utilized to render a respective presentation, by disclosing a parent and child hierarchical arrangement of sequences [*Sheasby, column 4, lines 4-8, 20-34*].

5-3. Regarding claim 7, Sheasby and Day teach the method as described in claim 1, further comprising receiving a request from an application over the API to render the media timeline, by disclosing using non-linear editors where clip objects representing the material being edited are positioned and manipulated with respect to a timeline to create an output sequence for the work being created [*Sheasby, column 1, lines 14-20*]. Conventional NLE system have permitted video, computer generated graphics, audio, and indirectly, film media to be edited and various effects to be applied to the media [*Sheasby, column 1, lines 20-23*].

5-4. Regarding claim 8, Sheasby and Day teach the method as described in claim 1, wherein at least one node is configured to reference an effect to be applied to an output of the media referenced by the node, by disclosing that each track may include multiple clips [*Sheasby, column 3, lines 10-20*] as well as various effects applied to the clips [*Sheasby, column 3, lines 20-25*].

5-5. Regarding claim 9, Sheasby and Day teach the method as described in claim 1, wherein at least one node is specified as read-only, by disclosing that the user can define users' rights to a child sequence to be read-only [*Sheasby, column 6, lines 21-30*].

5-6. Regarding claim 11, Sheasby and Day teach one or more computer readable storage media comprising computer executable instruction that, when executed on a computer, direct the computer to perform the method of claim 1, by disclosing [*Sheasby, figure 7; column 9, lines 30-40*].

Response to Arguments

6. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 12, 20, and 26. Examiner has rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C § 103 as being unpatentable over Sheasby et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,163 B1), in view of Day et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,996,015). Examiner has rejected independent claims 12, 20, 26, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sheasby. Therefore, Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALVIN H. TAN whose telephone number is (571)272-8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kieu Vu can be reached on 571-272-4057. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alvin H Tan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2173